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ETHNOGRAPHY AND COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES IN 1906.

Mr. LODGE presented the following

STATEMENT BY MR. HORACE N. FISHER ON ETHNOGRAPHY AND COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES IN 1906.

FEBRUARY 24, 1909.—Ordered to be printed with map.

[Memorandum, February 15, 1909.]

Ethnography and commercial importance of Latin America and the West Indies in 1906.

I. ETHNOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

The accompanying copy of an ethnographical chart of America, showing the proportion of the Caucasian race in each of the countries of America, was made ten years ago, but may be considered substantially correct as showing the present percentage of Caucasian, mixed, Indian, and negro races in America.

In the marginal notes are given detailed statistics suggestive of the probable future of, inter alios, the several islands of the West Indies, from which we may expect that Cuba and Porto Rico with, respectively, 65 and 57 per cent Caucasian, will ultimately be able to maintain responsible and prosperous self-government; while the other West India islands, with less than 5 per cent Caucasian, can hardly attain orderly government except as dependencies—"crown colonies."

It will be observed by the chart that the per cent of Caucasians is substantially the same in the North Temperate and the South Temperate zones—85 to 90 per cent; that that percentage steadily diminishes in approaching the Equator, whether from the north or from the south, attaining the minimum, 10 per cent, in Ecuador, and not exceeding 25 per cent anywhere within the Tropics, except in Cuba and Porto Rico.

It will also be noticed that the Indian and the mixed races are almost entirely within the Tropics, only $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent being found in Temperate Zone countries; and that the negro is subtropical rather than equatorial in distribution in America. It will further be observed that in 1890 the foreign trade per inhabitant was over 50 per cent greater in the Temperate than in the Tropical regions of America, being, respectively, \$30.25 and \$19.60 per inhabitant.

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Another fact appears by the ethnographical chart, which warrants the assumption that the Indian race never was considerable in what is now the United States, namely, that eleventh-twelfths of the Indian races are now inhabitants of the Tropics, and that even a larger percentage of the mixed races live within the Tropics. This fact seems to concur with the conclusion of those who have carefully studied the Indian question—that the number of Indians in the United States at present is probably quite as large as when the white man came to America.

II. COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

The second subject treated in this memorandum is the comparative commercial importance of Latin America and the West Indies on the one hand, and of all Asia and the East Indies on the other hand. This matter was treated in my memorandum of January 19, 1899, based upon the latest official statistics then available, namely, of 1890. In the two appended tables are given the area, population, and foreign trade of each of the countries of Latin America and the West Indies, and of all Asia and the East Indies for 1906, my authority being the Statesman's Year Book for 1908. Though the trade statistics are given in various currencies—often of silver, and sometimes of depreciated paper money—great care has been taken to reduce these trade reports to United States gold. I think that the amounts in United States gold are substantially correct, as given in these two tables.

It may surprise those who have not critically examined this subject to see (1) that the foreign trade of North and South America is more than double that of all Asia; (2) that the West Indies is the commercial equivalent of all the East Indies; (3) that the commerce of the east coast of South America (Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay) exceeds that of British India and all other British possessions in Asia (4) and is greater than the entire commerce of the Far East (China, Japan, and Korea); (5) that the foreign trade of Latin America and the West Indies, in 1906, aggregated \$1,963,050,741, and somewhat exceeded the aggregate trade, in 1906, of British India, Australia, and Canada (\$1,927,842,150); and (6) finally that Latin America and the West Indies have seven-eighths the population (continental) of the United States, and two and a half times its area.

Si quaeris mercatoria, circumspice! In America we have an India and a Japan, a China and an East Indies, able and willing to take all our surplus manufactured and agricultural productions!

HORACE N. FISHER.

BROOKLINE, MASS., *February 15. 1909.*

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[Memorandum February 15, 1909.]

Statistics of Latin America and the West Indies for 1906, being a revision of "memorandum January 19, 1899. Comparative table of the population and trade of Latin America and the West Indies, and of all Asia and the East Indies in 1890,"

[By Horace N. Fisher.]

Country.	Area, square miles.	Population, 1900 to 1906.	Exports and imports re- duced to United States gold.	Per in- habitant.	Asiatic equivalents.
British West India Islands, including Jamaica and Bahamas.	13,107	3,969,300	\$73,426,625	\$18.50	
West India Islands:					
Bermuda.....	964	372,297	12,405,718	33.36	
Cuba.....	44,000	1,572,845	208,449,324	132.60	Dutch East Indies, \$211,153,919.
Czechoslovakia.....	3,435	933,243	45,085,196	47.31	
Danish.....	138	30,527	1,682,490	11.42	
Porto Rico.....	3,435	933,243	45,085,196	47.31	
Santo Domingo and Haiti.....	28,049	1,916,000	16,825,209	8.79	
Total West Indies.....	75,484	4,442,088	259,359,725	58.39	Total East Indies, \$364,202,510.
Mexico.....	767,005	13,605,919	240,600,699	39.15	
Central America.....	169,365	4,230,708	52,441,385	17.69	
Colombia and Panama.....	478,780	4,673,674	24,188,160	12.22	
Venezuela.....	364,000	2,613,218	23,186,997	9.61	
Guiana—British, Dutch, French.....	166,837	393,338	24,341,777	61.39	
"Spanish Main".....					
Brazil.....	3,218,991	17,371,063	431,317,605	14.31	Total East Indies, \$364,202,510.
Argentina.....	3,135,840	5,678,197	562,294,350	24.32	Japan, \$151,733,152.
Uruguay and Paraguay.....	170,210	1,731,337	77,708,223	98.66	China, \$517,331,456.
East coast of South America.....	4,525,041			44.79	
.....			1,061,310,178	42.82	All British Asia and India, \$1,026,659,139. Total of "Far East," \$988,377,498.
Ecuador.....	116,000	1,205,600	19,488,199	16.17	
Peru.....	695,733	4,604,999	54,081,380	11.78	
Bolivia.....	605,400	1,933,916	24,915,909	12.75	
Chile.....	307,620	3,999,928	189,199,624	47.25	
West coast of South America.....	1,724,753	11,169,443	287,685,082	25.77	
All Latin America and the West Indies.....	9,185,877	70,409,656	61,963,650,741	(1906)	
United States (continental).....	3,661,114	83,941,510	63,315,272,503	(1906)	
Canada and Newfoundland.....	3,782,552	5,591,986	564,142,046	(1906)	
Total North and South America.....	16,629,543	159,943,122	65,842,465,290	(1906)	

a All Asia and East Indies, 1906, \$2,690,385,161.

b United States, 1906: Exports, \$1,880,851,078; imports, \$1,434,414,475; difference, \$446,429,653.

Balance of trade paid by other countries to United States. Average balance of trade in favor of United States has been \$473,392,755 a year for seven years ending 1906, the annual addition to national wealth from that single source.

4 ETHNOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA AND WEST INDIES IN 1906.

Statistics of Asiatic countries for 1906.

[Compiled from the Statesman's Year Book for 1908, by Horace N. Fisher.]

Country.	Area, square miles.	Population, 1906.	Exports and imports reduced to United States gold.	Per inhabitant.
Russian Asia.....	6,207,662	21,796,300	\$68,410,770	\$3.14
Turkish Asia.....	693,610	17,683,500	a100,000,000	
	6,901,272	39,479,800	\$168,410,770	
British possessions in Asia:				
British India.....	1,766,642	294,361,056	804,074,539	2.73
Ceylon.....	25,332	3,578,333	76,211,247	21.30
Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Johore ^b ...	39,953	1,488,710	c69,286,573	
Baluchistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim...	205,473	5,993,565	e15,180,696	2.53
Bahrein Islands ^d ...	275	70,000	e15,772,745	
Aden and Perim ^d ...	9,060	41,722	e29,391,050	
Cyprus.....	3,584	237,022	4,831,563	20.38
British Borneo.....	76,106	685,000	11,910,716	
Hongkong ^f	405	410,638	(g)	
	2,126,850	306,866,045	1,026,659,129	
East Indies:				
Dutch East Indies....	736,400	36,000,000	211,153,919	5.86
French: French India, Indo-China...	254,096	21,518,000	91,347,410	4.19
Portuguese: Goa, Timor, Macao ^h	8,972	895,789	i2,654,521	8.84
German: Kiau-chau ^j	200	33,000	(k)	
American: Philippines.....	127,853	7,635,426	59,046,660	7.78
Total East Indies....	1,127,521	66,082,215	364,202,510	
Far East:				
China.....	4,277,170	433,553,030	517,381,456	1.19
Japan.....	161,198	50,590,244	451,783,152	8.93
Korea.....	71,000	10,000,000	19,212,890	1.92
	4,509,368	494,143,274	988,377,498	
Far East and East Indies.	5,636,889	500,225,489	1,352,580,008	
Siam.....	212,200	6,686,846	59,794,905	8.94
Persia.....	628,000	9,500,000	56,633,870	5.94
Oman.....	82,000	800,000	3,396,861	4.25
Afghanistan.....	250,000	4,500,000	10,704,566	
	1,172,200	21,486,846	130,530,302	
All Asia and East Indies.....	15,837,211	928,058,181	2,690,385,161	

^a Estimated.

^b Straits Settlements (Singapore and Penang) are ports of deposit and distribution for transit trade, aggregating in 1906 \$364,175,896; for which reason are not counted in this table. Federated Malay States, with a trade of their own, are counted.

^c Federated Malay States.

^d Bahrein Islands in the Persian Gulf and Aden are practically ports of entry for the hinterland of Arabia; their trade, \$45,163,795, is mainly transit.

^e Mainly transit trade with the Arabian hinterland, but not credited to Turkey in Asia.

^f Hongkong, a free port of deposit and distribution for transit trade to and from China, had in 1906 a trade of \$182,141,907, or 35 per cent of China's trade of \$517,381,456, exports and imports.

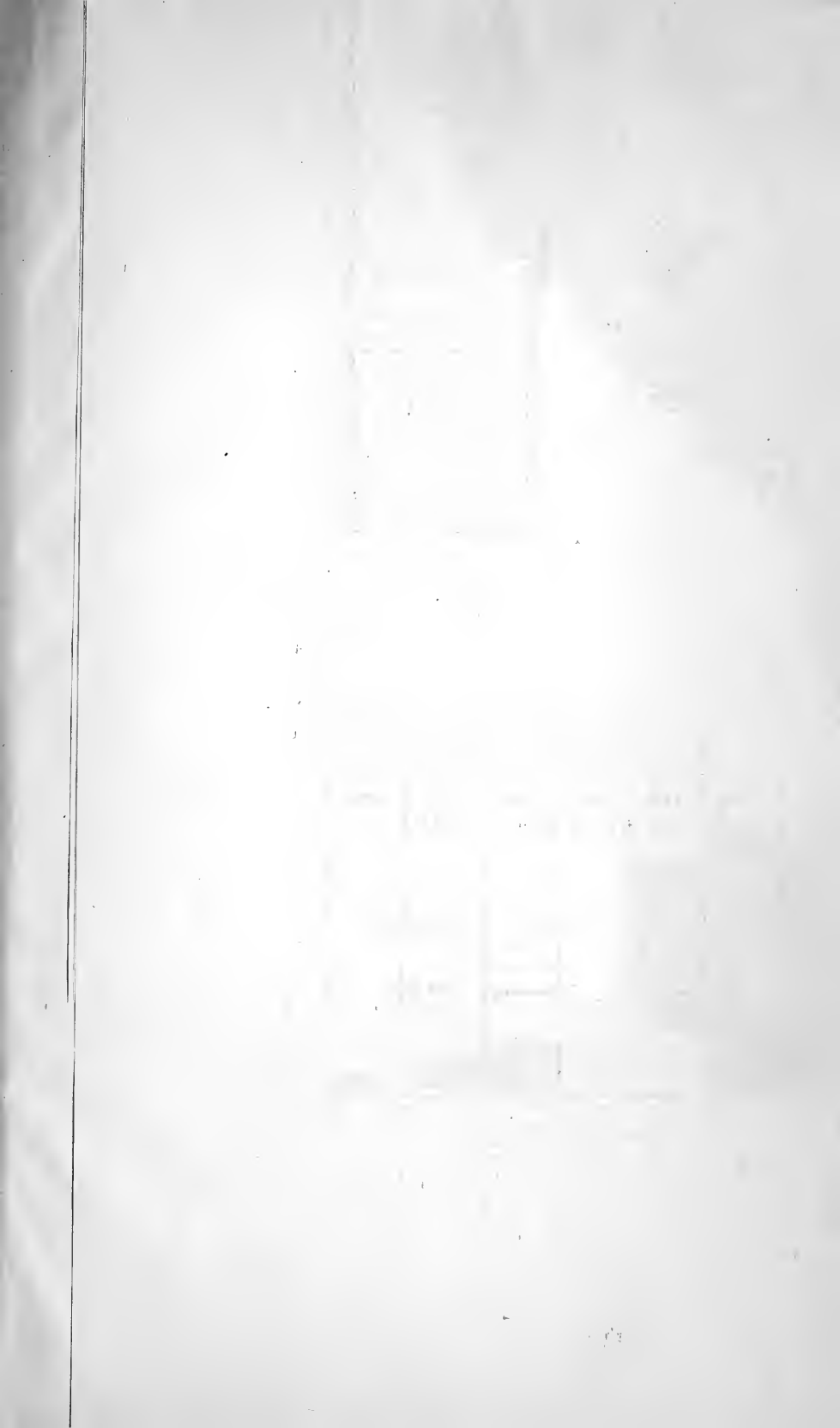
^g Transit only—credited to China.

^h Goa and Macao have only transit trade with India and China, respectively; in 1906, \$22,242,734.

ⁱ Timor.

^j Kiau-chau has only transit trade with the adjacent Chinese province of Shantung; in 1906 \$24,409,904.

^k Transit trade credited to China.



ETHNOGRAPHICAL CHART OF AMERICA, SHOWING THE PROPORTION OF CAUCASIANS IN EACH COUNTRY.

Appendix to "Memoirs of Feb'y. 1. 1899. - on the Government of Tropical Dependencies," by Horace N. Fisher. J



Boston, Feb'y. 1. 1899.

Horace N. Fisher.

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